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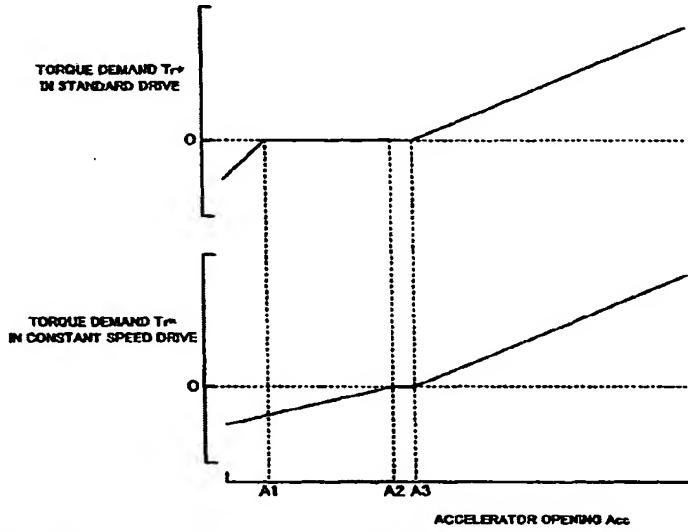
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(54) Title: HYBRID VEHICLE AND METHOD OF CONTROLLING THE SAME



(57) **Abstract:** In a constant speed drive (in an auto cruise), the procedure of the invention executes proportional control to set an accelerator opening Acc corresponding to an observed vehicle speed and a target vehicle speed. When the accelerator opening Acc is less than a preset opening A2 included in a dead zone where a torque demand  $Tr^*$  is kept equal to 0, the procedure corrects the accelerator opening Acc to have a corresponding torque demand  $Tr^*$  included in a negative zone where the torque demand  $Tr^*$  takes negative values and linearly increases. This arrangement heightens the linearity of the graph of the torque demand  $Tr^*$  against the accelerator opening Acc in the constant speed drive, compared with the linearity in a standard drive.

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